

MINUTES
Tennessee Public Charter School Commission
 Commission Meeting
 Wednesday, August 26, 2020 | 9:00 a.m. CT

Electronic Meeting

Video Recording: <https://youtu.be/02ddAYBhEcg>

***Note:** These minutes correspond to the video recording. Each item has a minute counter assigned to the subject location in the audio file.*

9:05-9:13 a.m.

00:00:00-00:08:02

Opening Comments, Roll Call, Agenda, Prior Minutes

Chairman Griscom commenced the meeting and introduced Shanell Tyler, Interim Counsel to the Tennessee Public Charter School Commission. Ms. Tyler conveyed the justification for conducting the meeting electronically as authorized by TCA 8-44-108. Due to ongoing COVID-19 pandemic concerns, state budget challenges, and restrictions against large public gatherings, the Commission determined it necessary to conduct the meeting via teleconference. The meeting was noticed, and dial-in information provided for the public, on the Tennessee Public Charter School Commission website. The meeting will be recorded and posted on the Commission's website.

Action of the Commissioners

Roll Call/Quorum							
Griscom	Richards	Patterson	Sisnett	Tucker	Hanson	Smith	Levine
Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present
Outcome: 8 of 8 Present; quorum established. Meeting called to order.							

Action of the Commissioners

Agenda Approval							
Motion made by: Chris Richards Seconded by: Derwin Sisnett							
Griscom	Richards	Patterson	Sisnett	Tucker	Hanson	Smith	Levine
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Outcome: 8 of 8 voting yes; agenda approved.							

Action of the Commissioners

Minutes of August 12, 2020 Meeting Approval							
Motion made by: Derwin Sisnett Seconded by: Alan Levine							
Griscom	Richards	Patterson	Sisnett	Tucker	Hanson	Smith	Levine
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Outcome: 8 of 8 voting yes; minutes to August 12, 2020 meeting approved.							

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

9:13-9:21 a.m.

00:08:02-00:15:58

Report of the Committee of the Whole (Chris Richards)

Commissioner Richards reviewed the steps to date to complete the hiring of Tess Stovall. She has signed the offer letter provided by the Commission. Her hiring is contingent upon completion of a TBI background check per normal state procedures. Her start date will be September 28, 2020. Commissioners Tucker and Sisnett will assist with onboarding the Executive Director. After this update, Commissioner Richards made a motion for the Commission to ratify the selection of Tess Stovall as Executive Director at the previous meeting by the Committee of the Whole.

Action of the Commissioners

Motion to ratify the selection of Tess Stovall as Executive Director							
Motion made by: Chris Richards Seconded by: Wendy Tucker							
Griscom	Richards	Patterson	Sisnett	Tucker	Hanson	Smith	Levine
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Outcome: 8 of 8 voting yes; motion approved.							

Commissioners Tucker and Sisnett commented on the onboarding process. Chairman Griscom then welcomed Tess to the Commission, and Tess made a few brief remarks.

9:21-10:00 a.m.

00:15:58-00:53:57

Authorizer Presentation (Tess Stovall)

Executive Director Tess Stovall provided a presentation on the authorizing function at the State Board and as a primer on the work that the Commission will inherit. First, she described the State Board’s currently authorized schools. Then she gave an overview of the current new-starter charter appeals and process. She concluded by identifying priorities for the Commission for the fall of 2020. With respect to Commission priorities, Commissioner Patterson requested that the Commission staff to be hired be diverse and representative of the students and communities served by the schools authorized by the Commission.

10:00-10:15 a.m.

00:53:57-1:10:20

REPORT: Rules and Policy Committee

Terence Patterson, Chair of the Rules and Policy Committee, asked Shanell Tyler to review the Commission’s Appeals and Authorizer policies and the charter school performance framework. Mr. Patterson and Ms. Tyler also discussed the need to suspend Policy 1.200 to allow two additional weeks to approve the meeting dates for the period Jan-Jun 2021.

Action of the Commissioners

Motion to approve Appeals Policies on Final Reading							
Motion made by: Terence Patterson Seconded by: Derwin Sisnett							
Griscom	Richards	Patterson	Sisnett	Tucker	Hanson	Smith	Levine
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Outcome: 8 of 8 voting yes; motion approved.							

Action of the Commissioners

Motion to approve Authorizer Policies on First Reading							
Motion made by: Terence Patterson Seconded by: Wendy Tucker							
Griscom	Richards	Patterson	Sisnett	Tucker	Hanson	Smith	Levine
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Outcome: 8 of 8 voting yes; motion approved							

Action of the Commissioners

Motion to approve Charter School Performance Framework on First Reading							
Motion made by: Terence Patterson Seconded by: Derwin Sisnett							
Griscom	Richards	Patterson	Sisnett	Tucker	Hanson	Smith	Levine
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Outcome: 8 of 8 voting yes; motion approved							

Action of the Commissioners

Motion to suspend Policy 1.200 Regarding the Date by Which Commission Meetings Must be Set							
Motion made by: Eddie Smith Seconded by: Wendy Tucker							
Griscom	Richards	Patterson	Sisnett	Tucker	Hanson	Smith	Levine
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Outcome: 7 of 8 voting yes; motion approved							

10:15-10:30 a.m.

1:10:20-1:25:10

REPORT: Business Operations Committee

Tom Griscom reviewed items discussed at the meeting of the Business Operations Committee. Judy Spencer, Director of Charter Schools for the Tennessee Department of Education, reviewed the office space being considered for the Commission staff. Chris Reynolds, contractor for the Charter Commission, reviewed the Commission’s revised FY21 Budget.

Action of the Commissioners

Motion to approve meetings calendar							
Motion made by: Derwin Sisnett Seconded by: Terence Patterson							
Griscom	Richards	Patterson	Sisnett	Tucker	Hanson	Smith	Levine
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		
Outcome: 6 of 8 voting yes; motion approved.							

Action of the Commissioners

Motion to approve FY21 revised budget							
Motion made by: Eddie Smith Seconded by: Derwin Sisnett							
Griscom	Richards	Patterson	Sisnett	Tucker	Hanson	Smith	Levine
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Outcome: 7 of 8 voting yes; motion approved.							

10:30-10:32 a.m.

1:25:10-1:27:00

Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn							
Motion made by: Dave Hanson Seconded by: Eddie Smith							
Griscom	Richards	Patterson	Sisnett	Tucker	Hanson	Smith	Levine
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Outcome: 7 of 8 voting yes; meeting adjourned.							